"LETTING YOU KNOW"

The Illinois Department of Transportation is interested in maintaining close communications with industry. This newsletter highlights subjects which we believe will be of interest to you.

No. 74 March 2004

APPROVED AGGREGATE SOURCE:

The Bureau of Materials and Physical Research has added an Approved Aggregate Source List to its current listing of approved materials on the IDOT Internet site at http://www.dot.state.il.us/materials/materialslist.html. This list contains all the aggregate producers that meet certification criteria, AGCS requirements and IDOT quality requirements. Construction personnel should consult this list before accepting aggregate on their jobsites to ensure that only approved material is being used.

ADDITIONAL BIDDER RESPONSIBILITY SPECIAL PROVISION:

Some projects let by the department contain a Special Provision titled "Additional Bidder Responsibility Evaluation Criteria." It is extremely important that bidders comply with this Special Provision. Failure to submit the required work plan with the bid SHALL be cause to declare the submitted bid not responsive. Please see the Special Notice located in this Bulletin.

ELECTRONIC PLANS AND PROPOSALS:

With the March 5, 2004 Letting, the department offered Plans and Proposals electronically. The April 23, 2004 Letting will be the last Letting offering Plans and Proposals in a paper format. **Starting with the June 11, 2004 Letting, Plans and Proposals will be available in an electronic format ONLY**. They may be downloaded from the department's web site at no cost. CDs containing Plans and Proposals may also be purchased from IDOT. Please see the Special Notice located in this Bulletin.

ADDENDA FOR ELECTRONIC PLANS AND PROPOSALS: It is the contractor's responsibility to determine which, if any, addenda pertains to any project they may be bidding. Failure to incorporate all relevant addenda may cause the bid to be declared unacceptable. With the implementation of <u>electronic ONLY</u> Plans and Proposals, the department will not be sending addenda to individual plan holders. Please see the Special Notice located in this Bulletin.



CONTRACTOR PREQUALIFICATION FORMS:

The department in the past has mailed prequalification packets to contractors whose Certificates of Eligibility will expire in four months. In an effort to streamline processes and reduce costs, these packets will no longer be mailed. Beginning April 1, 2004, our new policy will be to send a letter instead of a prequalification packet reminding contractors that their Certificates of Eligibility will expire in four months. All forms necessary for the renewal process are available on IDOT's web page at www.dot.state.il.us under the link "Doing Business." Renewal packets will only be available by submitting a written request to the Bureau of Construction.

REVISIONS TO THE TRAFFIC CONTROL STANDARDS FOR HIGH SPEED MULTI-LANE FACILITIES:

In response to recommendations from the Work Zone Safety Task Force, the department has made several revisions to the Traffic Control Standards for high speed multi-lane facilities. These changes will be included in plans on the April letting. Revisions involve both modifying existing Standards and the addition of a new Standard for the traffic control requirements on the approach to lane closures. Accompanying Special Provisions have also been developed, and additional pay items have been included with the Standards.

These revisions reflect the department's intent in having the motorist see a uniform approach to all lane closures on high speed facilities. The method of signing for the reduced speeds in work zones has also been developed to provide a clearer understanding to the beginning and end of the reduced speed zones.

NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK, APRIL 5-9, 2004:

On April 9, 2004, the department will be partnering with the labor and carpenter unions to promote work zone safety by handing out information to travelers at Interstate rest areas from noon until 6 p.m. Activity books, along with crayons, for children stressing the importance of safety in work zones will be available, and pamphlets with the department's safety slogan ME AND MY DADDY, which were developed after a flagger was struck and killed by a motorist last year, will also be handed out. The unions will be staffing the display at the rest areas with volunteers from their organizations. The materials will be supplied by the department.

STAY INFORMED!

Keep in touch with your representative on the IDOT/Industry Policy Committee and IDOT/Industry Joint Co-op Committee.